

## I-5 Seattle and Shoreline Construction Update

---

Edition 15, May 26, 2005

I-5 Makeover Schedule Revised

### I-5 Makeover Schedule Revised

On Tuesday, WSDOT and contractor Gary Merlino Construction reviewed construction schedules for the I-5 James to Olive pavement rehabilitation project and decided to reschedule the just-announced June 10 - 13 weekend. This is the weekend of University of Washington, Seattle University and Seattle Pacific University commencement exercises. After talking with the universities, we agreed that the lack of reasonable alternate routes to Husky Stadium, significant number of out-of-town visitors who are not familiar with Seattle roads, and possible lengthy traffic delays for those attending these once-in-a-lifetime events were simply too great a risk.

The University of Washington commencement is held at Husky Stadium. Freeway access to the stadium is limited to I-5 and SR 520. Our traffic data shows that these highways are stop-and-go on commencement day. Adding construction closures on I-5 would exacerbate this traffic problem. SR 99, I-405 and I-90, which serve as reasonable I-5 alternate routes for downtown Seattle events, aren't reasonable alternate routes to Husky Stadium.

We currently plan to complete the final three weekends of construction on southbound I-5 through downtown Seattle on:

- June 17-20
- June 24-27
- July 15-18

During the next two construction weekends **only one lane of mainline** southbound I-5 will remain open to traffic.

Weekend construction has been postponed five times due to wet weather. If construction must be postponed again, crews will work on the weekend of August 12-15.

This is the first major pavement rehabilitation project on Interstate 5 through downtown Seattle since its completion in the mid-1960s. Work includes closing several southbound I-5 lanes and ramps through downtown Seattle to demolish and remove deteriorating asphalt pavement between Olive Way and James Street and replace it with a stronger, longer lasting concrete surface. Additional work will occur near the Dearborn Street exit.

For up-to-date information on lane closures, weather delays or other late-breaking news related to James to Olive paving, please visit our [Web page](#).

### About this e-mail

If you received this message from someone else, [sign up](#) to receive it directly.

---